has been launched and sanction has been given for creation of 21 lakh tonnes capacity in cold storages. The Central Sector Scheme of capital investment subsidy for construction/renovation/expansion of rural godown is also in operation. An outlay of Rs. 70 crore each is proposed to be provided for these two schemes in 2002-03.

Other measures proposed to be adopted by the Government during 2002-03, include increased allocations for BPL families; launching of a major food for work programme under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY); allocation of 30 lakh tonnes of free foodgrains to States for relief works in areas affected by natural calamities; open market sales of 30 lakh tonnes compared to 5.5 lakh tonnes in 2000-2001; and enhanced incentives for export of foodgrians. Diversification of agriculture towards oilseeds, pulses and horticulture is also being encouraged.

Slaughtering of cattle

913. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the last census of livestock carried out in the country and what was the cattle population as per that census, State-wise;

(b) how many cattle-heads have been slaughtered since 1992, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that inspite of legal and illegal slaughtering the cattle population is not depleting; if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) what steps are taken to prevent illegal slaughtering of cattle-heads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The last livestock census was conducted in 1997 in the country. The cattle population is 198 million (provisional) and state-wise break up is given as per Statement. (*See* below)

(b) Slaughter of animals is a State subject and the data in respect of slaughtered cattle-heads is not available.

(c) As per the livestock census of 1992 and 1997, the cattle population has decreased from 204 million to 198 million.

(d) Article 48 of the Directive Principles of State Policy states that "The State shall endeavour to organize agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds, and prohibiting the slaughter, of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle."

The States are taking recourse to its laws to prevent the illegal slaughter of cattle as the preservation of cattle is a matter on which the States have exclusive power.

Statement

State wise cattle population in India

(in thousands)

Sr. No.	State/UT	1997(P)
1	Andhra Pradesh	10571
2	Arunachal Pradesh	453
3	Assam	8000
4	Bihar	22686#
5	Goa	88
6	Gujarat	6749
7	Haryana	2400
8	Himachal Pradesh	2095
9	Jammu & Kashmir	3175
10	Karnataka	10831
11	Kerala	3396#
12	Madhya Pradesh	28349
13	Maharashtra	18072
14	Manipur	508
15	Meghalaya	738
16	Mizoram	33
17	Nagaland	383
18	Orissa	13810

Sr. No.	State/UT	1997(P)
19	Punjab	2639
20	Rajasthan	12141
21	Sikkim	143
22	Tamil Nadu	9047
23	Tripura	1228
24	Uttar Pradesh	22047
25	West Bengal	17832#
26	A&N Islands	60
27	Chandigarh	7
28	Daman & Diu	5#
29	D&N Haveli	50
30	Delhi	96
31	Lakshadweep	3
32	Pondicherry	73
	All India:	**197708**

(P)-Provisional
#-Projected

Purchase of cotton by CCI

914. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed by Government to purchase cotton from cotton growing States;

(b) if so, the quantity of cotton/bales purchased by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) from each State during the last one year, so far, particularly from Gujarat;

(c) whether the purchase of cotton was as per the target fixed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) in what manner Government propose to compensate the farmers whose cotton remained unsold/unpurchased?